

A Piano-Player for the  
Most Popular School  
Teacher in Richmond

THE TIMES FOUNDED 1884.  
THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1880.

## VILLA CLEARS WAY FOR REBEL ATTACK ON TORREON CITY

Advance Guards, in En-  
vironments of Town Are  
Driven In.

## FEDERALS KILLED AT BERMEJILLO

No Further Resistance Expected  
Until Assault on Main Posi-  
tion Is Started—American  
Policy Will Remain Un-  
changed Until This Bat-  
tle Is Fought.

Constitutionalist Field Base, Berme-  
jillo, Durango, Mexico, March 22.—Hav-  
ing cleared the way for a direct attack  
on Torreon by his success on Friday  
and having established a base here and  
driven in the Federal advance guard  
in the environs of the Huerta strong-  
hold, General Francisco Villa, the rebel  
chief, left here today for the South.  
The zigzag columns of the Indians  
who offered their services at Chihuahua  
a month ago was nearest the enemy  
last night near Bermejillo Junction,  
only seven miles north of Torreon.  
Other columns were fifteen, twenty-  
two and even more miles away, but all  
were reported in motion in the di-  
rection of Torreon.

Before leaving on Friday, General  
Villa said he doubted whether the Fed-  
erals would make further resistance  
until he starts his assault on their  
main position. It is said that the  
manning of Torreon is such that the  
Federals are reported to have fortified,  
would be a legitimate part of the  
defense of Torreon, although its com-  
parative isolation would make support from  
other parts of the Federal defenses  
very impracticable.

**Fill Ditches With Water.**  
The countryside between Gomez  
Palacio and Torreon is filled with ir-  
rigation ditches. It is reported the Fed-  
erals have let the water into some of the  
ditches to impede the rebel advance, while  
others are being used as trenches.

The first important movement of the  
week just past took place when Gen-  
eral Villa set his troops in motion early  
last Friday morning from Yermo, about  
fifty miles north of Torreon.

Fifteen miles north of this city he  
came upon a strong advance line of  
Federals, who are believed to have  
been under orders to retreat on the  
advance of the enemy. The appearance  
of the rebels was so sudden that the  
retreat became almost a rout. The  
Federals, like the rebels, were mounted,  
and the encounter became a sort of  
a

The fight continued at a gallop into  
the streets of this city, and it was here  
that most of the Federal losses occurred.  
The bodies of 100 were picked up by  
Villa's men. The Federals are be-  
lieved to have carried most of their  
wounded into this city, as only three  
were found. The rebel loss was very  
heavy, many of the bodies of the Fed-  
erals were found in the hands of the  
rebels, leaving ninety dead on the  
field. His own loss he reported as  
three killed and seven wounded.

**Without Resistance.**  
This report of government troops  
seems to have been far in advance of  
any support, and the town of Tlahualilo  
was occupied by rebels without resistance.

Meanwhile, General Herrera occupied  
Santa Clara, and sent a force to bridge  
the ditch where Benavides had van-  
quished opposition. Meanwhile, an-  
other force of rebels under General  
Garcia had been moving on Mapimi,  
one of the most important cities in the  
Torreon district, and occupied it with-  
out a fight. Urbina was reported ill  
today, but his troops were said to be  
moving south under Colonel Fierro.  
Other rebel columns whose positions  
cannot be given with exactitude were  
understood to be drawing closer to the  
invested city from the south and south-  
west.

**Villa Occupies Bermejillo.**  
Bermejillo, Durango, Mexico, March  
22.—General Villa entered Bermejillo  
at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon after a  
running fight with advance guards of  
the Federals for fifteen miles. The  
enemy, numbering 300, was driven  
through Bermejillo, and about five  
miles beyond to Santa Clara, which  
was occupied by the forces of General  
Herrera. One hundred and six dead  
were reported on the Federal side.  
Federals retreated from Mapimi in  
front of the advance of a column sent  
by General Villa. Another column  
was sent under General Benavides to  
clear the way for the advance directly  
against Torreon.

General Villa is in communication  
with General Carranza, Cortes and  
other Constitutional leaders. The  
railroad was cut in many places by the  
Federals, but repairs were made quickly,  
and now there is direct communica-  
tion with the north.

Generals Herrera, Ortega, Benavides,  
Garcia, Trinidad, Rodriguez and Jose  
Rodriguez command brigades in the  
Constitutionalist army. General Felipe  
Aguilar, the artillery expert, is ac-  
companied by General Villa as chief of  
artillery and second in command.

The advance of General Villa's army  
south was accomplished with efficiency  
and exactitude. The army advanced to  
Cojuelos, accompanied by the supply  
trains, early on the morning of the  
20th. The main body then started for  
Bermejillo.

General Villa declared that he would  
sleep that night in Bermejillo, and the  
prediction was realized. The supply  
trains, which were left behind by the  
main body in its rapid march from  
Cojuelos, have arrived at Bermejillo.  
The army is in high spirits, and the  
generals are of the opinion that Tor-  
reon cannot hold out against  
the forces now being brought against  
it.

**No Change in Policy.**  
Washington, March 22.—Although  
full reports of the conference at Vera  
(Continued On Second Page.)

WHOLE NUMBER, 19,663.

## HOW TO BE SUPPLE

Mrs. Roger Watts Comes to Teach  
American Women.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
New York, March 22.—Mrs. Roger  
Watts, of London, has come to America  
to teach American women how to re-  
gard the suppleness and elasticity of  
youth, even though they have re-  
ached the age of forty, or more.

Through long study of Greek exer-  
cises, Greek statuary and Greek history  
on the island of Capri, Mrs. Watts  
discovered that the secret of perennial  
youth lay in the suppleness and elas-  
ticity of the body. She does not ad-  
vocate the elimination of corners, and  
wears clothes made after the prevail-  
ing fashion, but she has shoes built  
on a special last, with a low heel and  
a straight inside line from toe to in-  
step.

"Every woman should know how to  
use the ball of her foot, and the great  
toe," says Mrs. Watts. "Women think  
too little of their feet, and their feet  
to most of them are dead, and hav-  
ing that feeling, how can one move  
ethnically? When the suppleness and  
elasticity of the body depends upon the  
body upon the toe and foot?"

Mrs. Watts declares two meals a day  
are sufficient for the ordinary woman.  
She is to give a series of exhibitions  
at the Colony Club, under the patron-  
age of Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney, and  
later on at some theatre.

## ATMOSPHERE IS RELIGIOUS

Remarkable Demonstration by Suffra-  
geists in London.

London, March 22.—Suffrage Park-  
hurst, carried on a stretcher and sur-  
rounded by numbers of her friends, at-  
tempted to attend this afternoon ses-  
sion in Westminster Abbey, but was  
unable to gain admission, as every  
place had been taken in view of the  
fact that last Sunday she announced  
her intention to be present to-night.  
They held an open-air meeting in the  
street. The vanguard of the East End  
was led by a Church of England  
clergyman, the Rev. Edmund Willis,  
dressed in full vestments and opened the  
service with prayer, and after there-  
after, the members of the "army,"  
preached a short sermon.

Miss Parkhurst delivered an ad-  
dress, followed by a hymn, and then  
England "a real Christian country."  
that Westminster Abbey will become  
a place for the poor as well as for the  
rich.

After the meeting she was removed  
in a ambulance.  
The demonstration was remarkable  
for the small number of police present  
and for the religious atmosphere sur-  
rounding it. The speakers were inter-  
rupted by cheering and calls for  
"social revolution."

## OUTRAGES BY BRIGANDS

Bandits Ruthlessly Murder and Rob  
People of Central China.

Peking, March 22.—Outrages by brig-  
ands in Central China are assuming  
alarming proportions. The bandits are  
associated with the notorious outlaw,  
"White Wolf," are ravaging various  
parts of the country, and are murder-  
ing and robbing the people and  
burning their property.

The latest bandit exploit was the  
murder of 200 townsfolk who resisted  
their entrance into an important mar-  
ket town in the province of Szechwan.  
Most of the town was murdered, and  
the population ruined financially. On  
the morning of the recent sack of  
Kingshookan, Province of Honan, the  
local troops made no effort to resist the  
bandits. The troops were commanded  
by a general formerly a noted brigand  
chief. The government is unable to  
deal with the bandits, and there is  
every prospect for further development  
of brigandage.

The revolutionary element is still  
strong throughout the country. Ar-  
rests and executions are frequently  
made. The government is unable to  
will be employed in the suppression of  
brigandage.

## THOMAS J. M'GUIRE DEAD

He "Discovered" Maude Adams, and  
Belasco Was His Errand Boy.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
New York, March 22.—Thomas J.  
M'Guire, a well-known theatrical man-  
ager and newspaper man, died today  
at his home in West One Hundred  
and Fourth Street, after a prolonged  
illness.

About twelve years ago Mr. M'Guire  
was attacked by cancer of the throat,  
and it was finally found necessary to  
remove the tongue at the roots. The  
operation was performed by Dr. M'Guire,  
and the removal of his tongue. The  
disease, however, continued to spread,  
and the patient died. Mr. M'Guire has  
been confined to his home.  
Mr. M'Guire was the son of the  
founder of the Opera House in  
San Francisco. He was born in  
this city, fifty-seven years ago. In his  
early life he was on the stage, and  
is said to have been the man who  
discovered Maude Adams. He often told  
how he employed David Belasco at \$15  
a week, and how he discovered the  
act of which he was manager. This  
was the beginning of Belasco's the-  
atrical career.

## FEARS "TOMCATISM"

Mrs. John Martin Predicts Dire Out-  
come of Feudalism.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
New York, March 22.—Mrs. John  
Martin declared in a debate on "Feu-  
dalism" under the auspices of the  
National Political Union, that the  
Hudson Theatre, that the agitation for  
feudalism would, if successful, bring  
upon the world an era of "tomcatism."  
The speaker, who is a well-known  
Mrs. Martin, "will be reduced to the  
subordinate status of the domestic  
tomcat," she declared.

"Under the new order, man is to  
lead a furtive existence, with no or-  
ganized life," she declared. "He will be  
like the male drone in the bee hive.  
The main activities of the hive will be  
the making of industrious, self-sup-  
porting sustenance."  
"The goal of feudalism is the com-  
mercialization of life, the disintegra-  
tion of the home. Another column  
we must range ourselves with the home  
or against it."

## NOW ALFONSO UNDERSTANDS

Had Never Been Told That Monk Killed

London, March 22.—A letter from  
Madrid published here relates an in-  
teresting story about King Alfonso.  
Upon his recent visit to Bayonne, the  
King visited the local museum, where  
he was greatly attracted by a realistic  
picture of the death of Henry IV. of  
France.

"That King is not dying a natural  
death," the King exclaimed after ex-  
amining the picture carefully.  
"Of course, Your Majesty remembers  
the course of the picture," replied the  
guide diplomatically.  
"By whom was he killed, then?" Al-  
fonso asked, surprised that he had not  
recall the historic incident.  
"He was killed by Ravillac, a monk,"  
said the guide.

"A King killed by a monk! Now I  
understand why the story was never  
told me," the King exclaimed.

## BODY BLOWN TO FRAGMENTS

Timothy Kelly Explodes Stick of Dynamite on Chest.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
Wheeling, W. Va., March 22.—While  
temporarily insane, Timothy Kelly  
committed suicide today at his home  
in Lanark, by exploding a stick of dy-  
namite on his chest. His body was  
blown to fragments. Before ending  
his own life Kelly had tried to kill  
the wife and daughter of his brother.

## RATE DECISION TO BE EXPEDITED BY COMMISSION

Impression Is That It  
Will Be Favorable to  
Railroads.

## PRESIDENT URGES AGAINST DELAY

Other Important Matters Held  
Up Pending Final Action on  
Proposition for Advance.  
Evidence Practically All In,  
and Finding Expected  
Not Later Than June 1.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Washington, March 22.—A canvass  
of the Interstate Commerce Commis-  
sioners who will decide the rate advance  
asked by the railroads, made today,  
shows:

First, The evidence is practically all  
in, with the exception of a few bits  
and there will be few, if any, addi-  
tional hearings.

Second, The decision will be expedited,  
and may be looked for in about  
forty days—not later than June 1.

Third, The impression gathered from  
the evidence is that the need of increased  
rates, in whole or in part, is said to be  
convincing, and the decision will be  
favorable to the railroads.

Fourth, The commissioners are becom-  
ing more and more convinced of the  
prosperity of the business and general  
conditions throughout the country.

Fifth, Other important matters held  
up pending final action on the  
general proposition of the 5 per  
cent rate advance asked by the rail-  
roads.

Sixth, President Wilson is urging in-  
dustrial leaders of the commission to  
expedite the decision and clarify the  
minds of railroad and business men on  
the subject before the political cam-  
paigns for congressional nominations  
begin in April.

**New Commissioners Do Not Sit.**

The rate decision will be rendered by  
Chairman Harlan, and Commissioners  
Clark, McFarland, Sawyer and Clements.  
Two new commissioners, recently ap-  
pointed by President Wilson, did not  
sit during the hearings.

Chairman Harlan is absent from the  
city. Other commissioners seen today  
declined to discuss official matters.  
In detail, or to indicate the possible  
character of the decision or the time  
when it might be expected. They held  
judicial character of the decision.

A leading member of the commission,  
declining to be quoted, said:

"Appreciating the vast importance  
and significance of the action of the  
commission in these rate cases, other  
work has been held up, and the rate  
cases advanced and rushed with due re-  
gard to the collection of necessary  
facts and evidence on which to base a  
decision."

"Hasty and ill-considered action in  
this case would work great harm to  
both the railroads and the shippers, and  
cost the commission loss of confidence  
of all directly interested and of the  
country. This would be deplorable."

**Deep Interest Manifested.**  
The deep interest of the country in  
this decision, the commissioner con-  
firmed, "is evidenced by the great num-  
ber of letters and other communica-  
tions being received by the commis-  
sioners from the railroads and from  
business men."

"The commission must move with the  
utmost care. Only three months  
have been occupied in taking testimony,  
in the case, and the law provides that  
the commission shall grant hearings to  
parties in interest. The commission  
has authority, of course, to end these  
hearings when it decides it possesses  
all essential facts."

"The hearings have been for the  
purpose of deciding whether all the  
advances asked, or a part of them,  
were necessary to the prosperity of  
the railroads and their improvement  
and development, and to the advantage  
of the shippers and of business. The  
commissioners hold these matters be-  
fore them constantly in passing on all  
phases of transportation coming before them."

Commissioner Meyer said:  
"I have been on the commission only  
a little more than three years, but  
during that time I have never observed  
the slightest tendency to be influenced  
by anything except fact and law ap-  
plicable thereto. I have never had the  
least suspicion that a commissioner  
could be swayed from a high sense of  
justice, fairness and equity by any talk  
about the commission being either pro  
or anti-railroad, is absurd."

**Making Progress.**  
Commissioner Clements said:  
"The commission is making progress  
in the rate case as rapidly as possi-  
ble. Hundreds of open letters on the  
subject have been received by the com-  
mission from time to time, but I have  
not had an opportunity to read them  
all. Concerning the question of the  
effect on business conditions, particu-  
larly on railroads, of the commission's  
consideration of the freight rate in-  
crease, I consider it would be high-  
ly improper to make any comment."

Members of the commission admitted  
that President Wilson was taking a  
lively interest in the rate case to the  
end of having the decision expedited.  
He has not brooded with the commis-  
sioners the terms of the decision, and  
a commissioner said the President  
would not make such a mistake.

The President has stated he wants  
the decision because of its possible  
good effect on business throughout the  
country.

General prosperity which includes  
railroad prosperity, will prove a valu-  
able aid to the Democratic party in  
approaching congressional political  
contests. The President wants a Demo-  
cratic House continued to help him  
to carry through his legislative pro-  
gram.

The program might be blocked by a  
Republican House.

**Campaign in Alabama.**  
The congressional campaign is on in  
Alabama, the primaries there to be  
held in April. Other States will follow  
the Alabama.

(Continued On Second Page.)

## ALLEN CAPERTON BRAXTON DIES AT HOME IN STAUNTON

Brilliant Career of Well-  
Known Lawyer Is  
Closed.

## HE HAD BEEN ILL FOR MANY MONTHS

Known as Father of Corporation  
Commission Through Work in  
Constitutional Convention.  
He Was Regarded by  
Many as Leader of Pro-  
fession in Virginia.

Allen Caperton Braxton, father of  
the State Corporation Commission, and  
author of the chapter on corporations  
in the Virginia Constitution, died last  
night at 10:15 o'clock at his home in  
Staunton, after a long illness, aged  
fifty-two years. His wife, to whom he  
was married after his illness became  
acute; his sister, Mrs. J. S. Horsley, of  
Richmond, and others were with him  
at the end. He had been unconscious  
for the greater part of the time for  
the past four days, and, in fact, for  
the past six weeks his case had been  
regarded by physicians as hopeless.  
While no final arrangements were con-  
cluded last night in regard to the  
funeral, it is anticipated that the prin-  
cipal services will be held in Staunton,  
and that the interment will be made  
in the family section in Hollywood  
Cemetery, Richmond, where Mr. Brax-  
ton's father and mother are buried.

**Long in Failing Health.**  
Mr. Braxton had been in bad health  
or several years, though he had resolu-  
tely declined to give up active work,  
and continued to meet the demands of  
a large and varied law practice, being  
regarded by many as the leader of the  
profession in this State. In December,  
1912, he suffered an attack of Bright's  
disease, for which he was treated in  
Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore,  
with only temporary benefit. Early  
last spring he was taken ill again, and  
after treatment in Baltimore, went to  
his home in Staunton for a rest of  
several months, during which period  
he steadily lost ground, notwithstanding  
all efforts of his physicians.

In September he was moved to At-  
lantic City, where he remained several  
months, and it was while undergoing  
treatment at the Marlborough-Blen-  
heim Hotel, at Atlantic City, that he  
married Miss Mary Patterson Miller,  
daughter of the late Mason Miller, of  
Staunton, who had since been his con-  
stant nurse.

**Moved Back to His Home.**  
Realizing that his case was hopeless,  
and that he was nearing his end, his  
physicians arranged on March 7 for  
his removal in a private car to his old  
home in Staunton, where he steadily  
grew weaker, until the end came last  
night.

Mr. Braxton is survived by two  
brothers, Carter Braxton, Common-  
wealth's attorney in Staunton, and  
Hugh C. Braxton, of Staunton, and  
two sisters, Mary, the wife of Judge  
Henry Holt, of Staunton, and Eliza,  
the wife of Dr. J. Shelton Horsley, of  
Richmond.

Dr. Horsley visited him  
last Friday in Staunton, and found his  
condition critical. He was then semi-  
conscious, and during the last day was  
entirely unconscious.

**Of Distinguished Family.**  
Allen Caperton Braxton was the son  
of Dr. Tobin Braxton and Mrs. Mary  
Caperton Braxton, of King William  
County. He was born at Union, Mon-  
roe County, Va., on February 6,  
1862. His mother was the daughter  
of Allen B. Caperton, United States  
Senator from West Virginia, after  
whom he was named.

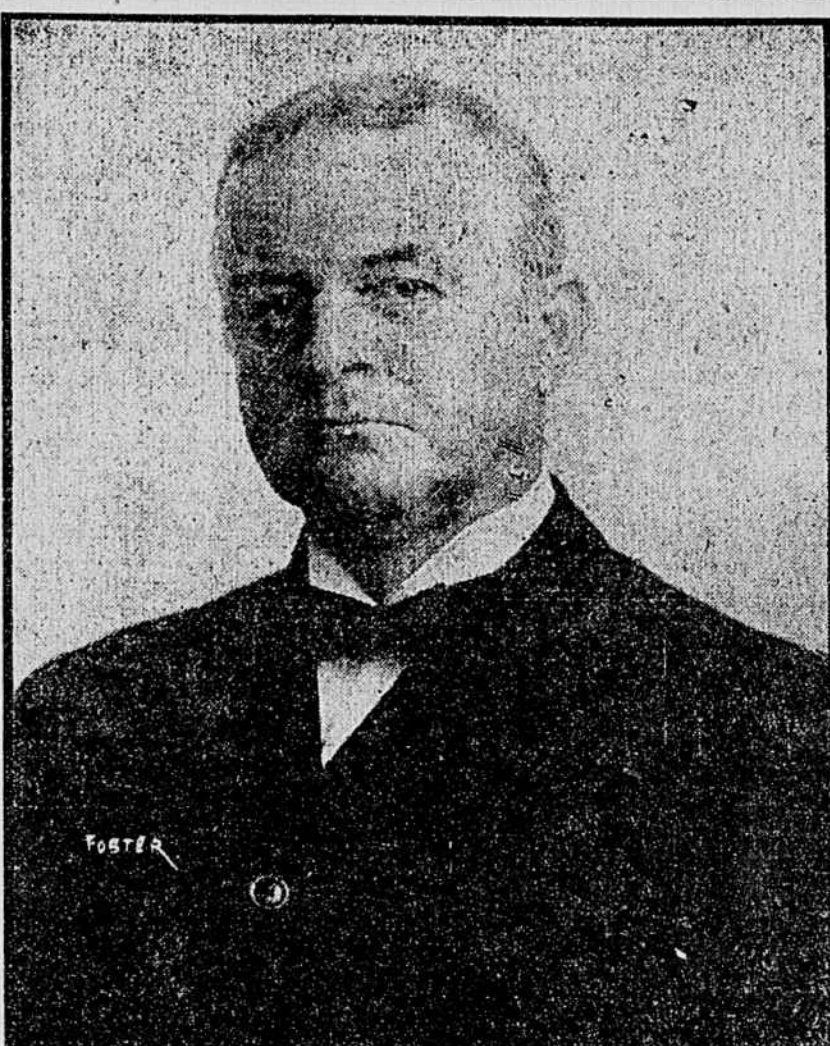
He was educated at Pamplinke  
Academy, and at the age of six he  
struck out for himself, teaching school  
(Continued On Second Page.)

**Virginia!**  
A Virginian is President of  
the United States.  
A grandson of Virginia is  
Vice-President of the United  
States.  
Senator Martin, of Virginia,  
is chairman of the powerful  
Senate Appropriations Com-  
mittee.  
Senator Swanson, of Virginia,  
is chairman of the Senate Com-  
mittee on Public Buildings and  
Grounds.  
Senator Owen, of Oklahoma,  
is chairman and chairman of  
the Senate Committee on Bank-  
ing and Currency.  
Senator Lewis, of Illinois, is  
a Virginian, and chairman of  
the Senate Committee on Ex-  
penditures in State Department.  
Representative W. A. Jones,  
of Virginia, is chairman of the  
House Committee on Insular  
Affairs.  
Representative Carter Glass,  
of Virginia, is chairman of the  
House Committee on Banking  
and Currency.  
Representative James Hay,  
of Virginia, is chairman of the  
House Committee on Military  
Affairs.  
Representative H. D. Flood,  
of Virginia, is chairman of the  
House Committee on Foreign  
Affairs.  
John Skelton Williams, of  
Virginia, is Comptroller of the  
Currency, and is said to be  
slated for Secretary of the  
Treasury.  
No State in the Union has as  
powerful a governmental posi-  
tion as Virginia.

These men are advertising  
Virginia every day.  
Are you advertising Virginia  
and your own business?  
The Times-Dispatch offers  
the best means for advertising.

OALL MONROE 1.

(Continued On Second Page.)



ALLEN CAPERTON BRAXTON.

## CONTINUE SEARCH FOR MISSING BOY CLAIM REPEAL BILL IS LOSING GROUND

Flying Squadrons of Detectives  
Scurry Over South Jersey  
in Automobiles.

Opponents of Measure Earnestly  
at Work on Members Who  
Still Are Wavering.

IMPORTANT CLUE IS FOUND  
GLAD OF REPEATED DELAYS

Officers Think They Are on  
Right Trail, and Hope to  
Find Warren McCormick.

Serious Opposition  
Confronts President

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
Philadelphia, March 22.—What the  
police believe the most tangible clue  
to the whereabouts of Warren Mc-  
Cormick, the seven-year-old boy for  
whose recovery rewards amount to  
\$5,000 have been offered, was found to-  
day by flying squadrons of detectives  
in automobiles sent from this city and  
Atlantic City, scurrying over South  
Jersey.

The searchers sent out by Captain of  
Detectives Cameron telephoned from  
Clementon, N. J., late this afternoon  
they believed they were on the right  
trail. Two residents of the town de-  
clared they saw a boy they believed  
was Warren McCormick at the Reading  
Railway Station in Clementon last  
night about 9 o'clock. The boy wore  
a knitted cap, blue chinchilla overcoat  
and rubber boots, they said. This was  
the way the boy was dressed when he  
disappeared.

William Smith, white, and Albert  
Hicks, colored, are the Clementon men  
who say they saw the boy. They were  
company with three men, they declared,  
and their attention was attracted to  
the quartet because the boy was cry-  
ing, and evidently trying to escape  
from his captors. One of the men was  
about twenty years old, five feet, eight  
inches tall, and wore a dark overcoat  
and derby hat. The other two men  
were each about twenty-eight years  
old, and each slightly shorter in sta-  
ture than the older, younger companion.  
One wore a dark fedora hat, and the  
other a derby.

**Start Of Walking.**  
The men appeared to be waiting for  
a train, but when their efforts to quiet  
the crying boy failed, they started off  
walking down the tracks toward At-  
lantic City. At Hammonton, N. J., a  
Mrs. Hull declares she saw the quar-  
tet, but could not describe the boy.  
Railroad detectives of the Penn-  
sylvania and Reading systems immediately  
were notified and joined with the  
Philadelphia detectives and others  
sent from Atlantic City in automobiles.  
All the station agents along the lines  
of both roads were notified by tele-  
graph not to leave their posts, and to  
hold up and arrest any trespassers  
along the tracks.

An army of Philadelphia newspaper  
men and photographers followed in the  
wake of the flying automobile, and  
early to-night caught up with the de-  
tectives. The alarm was sounded as  
the party passed through each Jersey  
town, and notices bearing photographs  
and the description of the missing boy  
were scattered broadcast among the  
citizens by the detectives.

The detectives learned that the three  
men and the boy had been seen in other  
localities in South Jersey, and in-  
cluded from descriptions of the men  
movements that they had adopted a  
plan of sleeping through the day and  
traveling by night.

**Father Makes Appeal.**  
"Help us in our great trouble, re-  
member even little things," declared  
James McCormick, father of the kid-  
napped boy, today, in a second appeal  
to the parents of the country to aid  
in the search.

"It has been eleven days since my  
son was taken from our home, and  
each day has added so much to the  
misery and suspense that our hearts  
aches for him. We are scarcely able to sleep  
or eat. My wife cries continually for  
my boy, and although I have done my best  
to keep up heart and have been en-  
couraged by the brave men and women  
(Continued On Second Page.)

A Piano-Player for the  
Most Popular School  
Teacher in Richmond

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## ULSTER DEJOICES AT DEFECTION OF ARMY OFFICERS

Despite Direct Request  
From King, They Re-  
fuse to Reconsider.

## TROOP MOVEMENTS ARE CARRIED OUT

British Government Declares  
They Are of Precautionary Na-  
ture—Frequent Conferences  
Between High Officials.  
Next Move of War Of-  
fice Eagerly Awaited.

Belfast, March 22.—The defection of  
army officers is the cause of great  
jubilation in Ulster, and among the  
officers of the provisional government  
who are keeping in touch with events  
at Curragh and other military depots  
in Ireland, through secret correspon-  
dence. The Associated Press to-night  
was shown a letter which the provi-  
sional authorities have received from  
an officer at the Curragh station, say-  
ing that the more than 100 officers "dis-  
signed," including all the cavalry of-  
ficers, General Sir Arthur Paget,  
commanding the troops in Ireland, had  
them paraded, and told them, accord-  
ing to the letter, that he offered them  
press order and request from the King  
himself to ask every officer to go as  
ordered; that they might never be  
called on to fight, and that if they re-  
fused to go, there might be a mutiny  
in the army, which would mean a revo-  
lution in England, and in six months  
there would be no King and no army.

Despite this appeal, all the officers  
refused to reconsider their resigna-  
tions. A general officer of high stand-  
ing in the regular army was offered  
the post of commander-in-chief of the  
force which is to operate against the  
Ulster volunteers. When he declined  
the offer, the War Office informed him  
that his refusal meant the severance  
of his connection with the army. He  
persisted, and the authorities offered  
the post to another officer, said to be  
a former member of the Ulster volun-  
teers. He, too, refused. A denial was  
issued today of the report that the  
regiment, there has been no diminu-  
tion in the activity of the Ulster  
army.

**Centre of Ulster Movement.**  
Officers of the so-called headquar-  
ters staff on duty at Craigavon, now  
the centre of the Ulster movement, to-  
day were busy taking the range of  
the various polls and other strategic  
points of Belfast Lough, which the es-  
timate overlooks. The military admini-  
stration began the issuance to-  
morrow of the first numbered field  
forms to special service corps of 4,000  
men, especially organized, as a mobile  
striking force for the first attack, in  
event of hostilities. A sufficient num-  
ber of motor cars are available for  
transport at least 4,000 men, with  
rifles and ammunition, from Belfast  
to any threatened point in Ulster in three  
hours.

Ulster awaits with curiosity the next  
move of the War Office, otherwise the  
situation remains unchanged. Abso-  
lute order prevails in the city. Eighty  
special service "minutemen," on duty  
at Craigavon, are on duty at the Presby-  
terian Church at Belmont, and are  
taking their hospital camps and ambu-  
lance men, even the surgeons, but leav-  
ing a patrol of men behind to guard the  
rifles and patrol the streets. The others  
prayed in the pews behind Sir Edward  
Carson and other leaders.

Sir Edward to-night said he had re-  
ceived letters of sympathy and en-  
couragement from the Ulster volunteers.  
Replying to the statement that the  
troop movements were purely precau-  
tionary in consequence of the discov-  
ery of a military plot to raid the mili-  
tary depots, he said:

"There never was the least intention  
to take any provocative or aggressive  
action, nor will any be taken."

**Troop Movements Carried Out.**  
London, March 22.—An official report  
issued to-night says all the proposed  
troop movements in Ulster have been  
carried out.